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Senate

The Senate met at 9:33 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JAMES M. TALENT, a Senator from the State of Missouri.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chaplain will lead the Senate in prayer. Today's guest Chaplain is Dr. K. Randel Everett of the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Arlington, VA.

PRAYER

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

May we pray.

Dear God, we bow our knees before You, from whom every family in Heaven and Earth derives its name, and ask that You will grant us to be filled with Your spirit, and with Your power that You might empower us to experience Your riches according to Your glory in our inner person.

Please give us courage that we might stand with confidence in a world of uncertainty.

Give us boldness that we might speak truth.

Give us humility that we might extend grace.

Give us compassion that we might act with kindness.

Give us patience that we might live wisely.

Give us faith in You that we might trust You with all of our heart and not to rely on our own understanding.

Dear Lord, today is a gift You have given us. May we experience Your joy through the lives and opportunities that await us. In thy name we pray. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JAMES M. TALENT led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2003.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JAMES M. TALENT, a Senator from the State of Missouri, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TALENT assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 10:30 a.m.

Following morning business, the Senate will begin consideration of Calendar No. 79, S. 14, the energy bill. Under the previous agreement, no amendments to the bill will be in order until Thursday. However, Members are encouraged to come to the floor to make opening statements and to debate the merits of the bill.

Also, today the Senate will recess for the weekly party lunches from 12:30 to 2:15 p.m.

In addition to the energy bill, the Senate may begin consideration of any of the following items later today: The State Department reauthorization bill, the air cargo security bill, the FAA reauthorization bill, as well as any addi-

tional nominations that can be cleared over the course of the morning. There are still several judicial nominations that are on the calendar that may require rollcall votes and, therefore, Members should anticipate rollcall votes during today's session.

Under a unanimous consent agreement reached last night, on Wednesday the Senate will begin consideration of the NATO Expansion Treaty. The agreement allows for two amendments to be considered on Wednesday. However, the Senate will not vote on the resolution of ratification until Thursday morning at 9:30 a.m.

I thank all Members for their attention. As always, we will notify Members as votes are scheduled today.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 10:30 a.m., with the time equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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